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izing agencies, of which *moral* education is, no doubt, one. According to the judicial statistics for England and Wales, imprisonment is successful after the third time in about eighty per cent. of the cases annually submitted to the criminal courts. He is no less emphatic in the assertion that there is a class who are practically irreformable, and the principal reform recommended in our penal system is, that a distinction should be made between these two classes.

"A society based upon the principle of individual liberty is a society of which the members are supposed to be gifted with the virtues of prudence, industry, and self-control; virtues of this nature are, indeed, essential to the existence of such a form of society. Unfortunately, a certain portion of its members do not possess them, even in an elementary degree, and no amount of seclusion in prison will ever confer these qualities upon them. Imprisonment, to be followed by liberty, however rigorous it is made, is, accordingly, no solution of the difficulty; the only effective way of dealing with the incorrigible vagrant, drunkard, and thief is by some system of permanent seclusion in a penal colony. All men are not fitted for freedom, and so long as society acts on the supposition that they are, it will never get rid of the incorrigible criminal." When will parliaments and judges give up the absurd system of going on passing, time after time, sentences which experience has shown to be incapable of reforming the criminal, or of protecting society against him?

We should, indeed, have been glad for a good deal more in the way of practical and detailed suggestion from a writer so well qualified to speak with authority upon the matter. We should have liked both suggestions for the reform to existing law and advice as to its practical administration: most judges and magistrates might learn something even from what Mr. Morrison has given us. He does not appear to be anxious for the abolition of capital punishment, but assumes that the tendency of the age is in that direction. We should have liked to hear his views upon the still more disputed question of corporal punishment. He has nothing to say on the subject even in relation to juvenile offenders, with whom he admits that the effect of a first imprisonment is simply to dispel the vague terror with which the idea of prison has hitherto been associated. Would not the same be more or less true of many "juveniles" too old to be sent to reformatories, and in fact of most prisoners accustomed to a hard life and imprisoned only for very short periods?

H. RASHDALL.

THE DARKEST ENGLAND SOCIAL SCHEME: A BRIEF REVIEW OF THE FIRST YEAR'S WORK. London, E.C., December, 1891.

General Booth's social scheme has now been a year in working, and in this volume we are furnished with an audited statement of accounts, and a description of the different departments of the scheme, and of their actual *modus operandi*. The description is drawn on the same lines as the original book, is as highly colored, and as skilfully calculated to appeal to the sympathies; but there is, perhaps, more emotion in it than fact, though some of the facts recorded are sufficiently notorious and oppressing. It is to the accounts, however, that General Booth's critics will naturally turn for material for finding fault. They will discover that the Salvation Army has handed over to the fund properties of

the net value of £5000 odd, and that, with the exception of £25,000, which has been reserved for the colony over the sea, the donations of £100,000 have been applied to the starting of the city and farm colonies, and that a grant of £1432 has been made from the fund to the working expenses of the latter and £15,431 to those of the former. This last sum is undoubtedly considerable; but it must, in fairness, be remembered that General Booth has always asked for subscriptions for the working as well as for the capital expenses, and it is too early to form any reliable judgment, based on the figures, of the ultimate financial position of the scheme. Some of the undertakings of the city colony seem to be already in a fair way to be self-supporting; and the land for the farm colony, being in Essex, has been obtained at a moderate price, and may possibly be worked at a profit under spade cultivation, with a market to a large extent secured in itself and in the city colony, while, being in Essex, it has proved comparatively unprofitable under the plough. But of this, again, it is too early to judge, and we are driven back on the general prospects of the scheme regarded in the light of the character of its propounders and the principles on which it is based. The strong points of General Booth's proposal are its insistence on the moral side of social reform, and in this respect it is distinguished from many such proposals which have been made in the past; its connection of the different parts with one another so as to render and derive mutual support; and its possession in the officers of the Salvation Army of a disciplined body of men and women accustomed to deal with some of the lowest classes of society. With such advantages as these the scheme certainly deserves a fair trial; and many of its less welcome features—its noisy advertisement, its exaggerated account of the evils with which it proposes to deal, its depreciation or ignoring of other attempts to handle the same problems on a humbler scale, its overweening hopes and extravagant promises—may be pardoned or neglected. The evil is unquestionably great; the extent and success of the operations of the Salvation Army, despite all cavil and censure, constitute one of the most remarkable facts of the times; and the stress laid on the moral element is of favorable omen. The performance of the scheme may not be proportioned to its promise, but it may, nevertheless, deal with no little success with some of the most deplorable incidents of our modern civilization.

L. L. PRICE.

THE REDEMPTION OF LABOR; OR, FREE LABOR UPON FREED LAND. By Cecil Balfour Phipson. London: Swan Sonnenschein, Lowry & Co., 1888.

Mr. Phipson's book is clearly the outcome of a genuine sympathy with the toiling and suffering mass of men who in wealthy England struggle painfully for a bare subsistence. Its animating thought is that there is something wrong with an economic system which admits of such contrasts, and that this wrong is the result of human institution and not of "Divine ordinance." Hence the writer's main enemies are the "orthodox" economists who regard the existing industrial system as the outcome of necessary laws, and whom he sometimes even seems to hold responsible for much of the existing social injustice. He has been stimulated clearly by Mr. Henry George's theories and proposals, but his book is an entirely independent and original attempt to think out the laws of economic